

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO

25X1

COUNTRY Korea

DATE DISTR. 27 JUN 50

SUBJECT Refining Plant in Mumpyeong

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The following materials were produced by the refinery in Mumpyeong (127-22, 39-14) during a three months period in 1949: 900 tons of unrefined copper, 800 kg. of unrefined gold, 100 tons of lead arsenate, 100 tons of arsenic acid, 1,500 tons of unrefined lead, 1,300 tons of lead by electrical processes, two and a half tons of silver by electrical processes, and two tons of unrefined bismuth.
2. Metal ores are obtained from various mines in North Korea, but chemical materials are supplied from stocks left by the Japanese and from purchases in the USSR and South Korea. Products of the plant are shipped at night to the Bureau of Industry in Pyongyang in trucks, which are guarded by the plant manager, the production chief and ten policemen. The material is then transported to the USSR in exchange for weapons, chemicals and machines.
3. The total number of persons employed by the refinery is 1,502, engaged as follows: 300 in the refining section; 280 in the electrical process division, 250 in the machine shop; 200 in the construction section; 100 each in the rare metals and arsenic acid sections; 50 each in the guard, finance, labor, and experimental sections; 40 in the business division; 30 in the planning division; and one manager and vice-manager. Five engineers, with eighty assistants, are included in the above sections; 450 are skilled laborers and 952 are unskilled workers. Three Soviets, whose positions are unknown, are also employed by the plant. Wages vary from 550 won per month for the unskilled laborers to 1,800 won for the manager, the five engineers receiving 1,300 won per month.
4. Equipment of the plant includes one Japanese-made 1937 model truck and two Soviet-made trucks, three gasoline railroad cars, and 100 steel and three wooden dump cars used for the transportation of ores.

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[Comment. For descriptions of similar plants at Hungnam.

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